

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure on page 34 as follows:

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

~~The present invention is directed to threaded~~ Threaded connectors for axial alignment of tubular components, and methods of installing pipe sections employing such connectors are disclosed. The device comprises a first section of pipe comprised of at least one length of pipe, a threaded pin connector coupled to the first section of pipe, a second section of pipe comprised of at least one length of pipe and a threaded box connector coupled to the second section of pipe, the box and pin connectors being threadingly coupled to one another and welded to one another along an exterior grooved circumferential weld joint. ~~In one illustrative embodiment, the~~ The method comprises a first section of pipe comprised of at least one length of pipe, a threaded pin connector coupled to the first section of pipe, a second section of pipe comprised of at least one length of pipe and a threaded box connector coupled to the second section of pipe, the box and pin connectors being threadingly coupled to one another and welded to one another along an exterior grooved circumferential weld joint.